

## **Proposed Amendment to Simplify and Update the Demand Management Measures Section of the Urban Water Management Planning Act**

Urban water suppliers are currently required to describe the demand management measures (DMM) they are implementing or plan to implement in their urban water management plans, in accordance with a list of 14 DMMs described in the California Water Code Section 10631(f). This recommendation is to simplify, clarify and update the DMM reporting requirements listed in sections 10631 (f) and (g).

### **Background:**

Currently, the Urban Water Management Planning Act requires an urban water supplier to include in its Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) a description of each of the 14 listed water demand management measures (DMMs) that the water supplier is implementing or plans to implement. Some of the 14 DMMs, listed in California Water Code Section 10631(f)(1), are outdated due to legislative or code changes, advances in water efficient devices or appliances, or improvements in technology and management practices. If one or more of the 14 listed DMMs is not being implemented or scheduled for implementation, Section 10631(g) requires the water supplier to provide a cost-benefit analysis and explanation as to why the DMM is not being implemented. Water suppliers who are members of the California Urban Water Conservation Council and are in full compliance with the Council's Memorandum of Understanding can submit Best Management Practice coverage reports in lieu of describing the DMMs.

The demand management section of an urban water management plan documents the water conservation and efficiency programs a water supplier is implementing or plans to implement to meet water supply reliability or state water conservation goals. For many water suppliers, the urban water management plan is the only public document that describes the supplier's water conservation plan and implementation program. This section is used by water supplier customers, board members, regional planning agencies and other interested parties.

In 2008, the California Urban Water Conservation Council recognizing that the cost effectiveness of the BMPs varied between suppliers revised its list of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to create a list of 7 foundational BMPs and 7 programmatic BMPs. All member agencies are required to implement the foundational BMPs while the programmatic BMPs are optional depending on the compliance track selected.

The SBx7-7 20x2020 water conservation program requires water suppliers to set water use targets, but does not require specific water conservation measures be implemented. Water suppliers can choose based on their unique circumstances which programs to implement to meet their target. This flexibility helps ensure cost effective programs are being implemented.

### **Purpose of Recommended Amendments:**

The primary intent of this recommendation is to update and streamline the DMM reporting requirements contained in the Urban Water Management Planning Act to reflect the legislative, management, and technological changes described above and make the DMM reporting less prescriptive.

The ITP further recommends that water suppliers describe the demand management measures implemented in the previous five years. The existing water code requires water suppliers to describe programs currently being implemented or planned for implementation. The requirement to describe past implementation will provide more information on which measures were implemented.

### **DWR Assistance and Guidance**

The ITP recommends that all water suppliers provide a narrative description on the implementation of for five demand management measures and describe the additional measures necessary for water supplier to meet its target. DWR working with the CUWCC should develop a list of possible additional programs that water suppliers could implement. DMMs on this list could include new technologies and approaches or measures used in other states or countries.

### **ITP Recommendation 1:**

**Water code sections 10631 (f) and (g) should be rewritten to consolidate the 14 demand management measures to 5 measures as defined in the suggested statutory language . DWR working with the CUWCC should develop a list of additional demand management measures that water suppliers could implement to meet water use targets.**

### **Suggested statutory language:**

A retail supplier shall include a narrative description that addresses the nature and extent of each demand management measure implemented over the past five years and describe the demand management measures it plans to implement to achieve its water use target as determined under Water Code Section 10608.20. The narratives shall include descriptions of the following demand management measures:

- a. Water waste prevention ordinances;
- b. Metering;
- c. Conservation pricing;
- d. Public education and outreach;
- e. Programs to assess and manage distribution system leak loss;
- f. Other demand management measures that have a significant impact on GPCD, including innovative measures, if implemented.

A wholesale supplier shall include a narrative description of its distribution system asset management program and wholesale supplier assistance programs.

